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FED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE United States Patent and Trademark Office Address: COMMISSIONER FOR PATENTS P.O. Box 1450 Alexandria, Virginia 22313-1450 www.uspto.gov FILING DATE ATTORNEY DOCKET NO. FIRST NAMED INVENTOR CONFIRMATION NO. 10/589,716 04/03/2008 Ruediger Freitag 3836 9966 04/28/2009 7590 **EXAMINER** MICHAEL J. STRIKER GANEY, STEVEN J 103 EAST NECK ROAD **HUNTINGTON, NY 11743** ART UNIT PAPER NUMBER 3752

Please find below and/or attached an Office communication concerning this application or proceeding.

MAIL DATE

04/28/2009

DELIVERY MODE

PAPER

The time period for reply, if any, is set in the attached communication.

	Application No.	Applicant(s)						
	10/589,716	FREITAG ET AL.						
Office Action Summary	Examiner	Art Unit						
·	STEVEN J. GANEY	3752						
The MAILING DATE of this communication app Period for Reply	- The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet with the correspondence address Period for Reply							
A SHORTENED STATUTORY PERIOD FOR REPLY WHICHEVER IS LONGER, FROM THE MAILING DA - Extensions of time may be available under the provisions of 37 CFR 1.13 after SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication. - If NO period for reply is specified above, the maximum statutory period w - Failure to reply within the set or extended period for reply will, by statute, Any reply received by the Office later than three months after the mailing earned patent term adjustment. See 37 CFR 1.704(b).	ATE OF THIS COMMUNICATION 36(a). In no event, however, may a reply be tin vill apply and will expire SIX (6) MONTHS from cause the application to become ABANDONE	N. nely filed the mailing date of this communication. D (35 U.S.C. § 133).						
Status								
1) Responsive to communication(s) filed on 17 Au	<u>ıgust 2006</u> .							
2a) This action is FINAL . 2b) ⊠ This	action is non-final.	•						
3) Since this application is in condition for allowar	nce except for formal matters, pro	secution as to the merits is						
closed in accordance with the practice under E	x parte Quayle, 1935 C.D. 11, 45	53 O.G. 213.						
Disposition of Claims								
4) Claim(s) 1-17 is/are pending in the application.								
4a) Of the above claim(s) is/are withdraw	vn from consideration.							
5) Claim(s) is/are allowed.								
6)⊠ Claim(s) <u>1-17</u> is/are rejected.								
7) Claim(s) is/are objected to.								
8) Claim(s) are subject to restriction and/or	election requirement.							
Application Papers								
9) The specification is objected to by the Examine	г.	-						
10) The drawing(s) filed on is/are: a) acce	epted or b) \square objected to by the ${f I}$	Examiner.						
Applicant may not request that any objection to the	drawing(s) be held in abeyance. See	e 37 CFR 1.85(a).						
Replacement drawing sheet(s) including the correcti	- · · · · · · · · · · · · · · · · · · ·	• •						
11) The oath or declaration is objected to by the Ex	aminer. Note the attached Office	Action or form PTO-152.						
Priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119								
12)⊠ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for foreign a)⊠ All b)□ Some * c)□ None of:	priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)	-(d) or (f).						
1. Certified copies of the priority documents	s have been received.							
Certified copies of the priority documents	s have been received in Applicati	on No						
Copies of the certified copies of the prior	ity documents have been receive	ed in this National Stage						
application from the International Bureau								
* See the attached detailed Office action for a list	of the certified copies not receive	d.						
Attachment(s)								
1) Notice of References Cited (PTO-892)	4) Interview Summary	(PTO-413)						
2) Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948)	Paper No(s)/Mail Da	ite						
3) Information Disclosure Statement(s) (PTO/SB/08) Paper No(s)/Mail Date 8/17/06, 12/22/08.	5) Notice of Informal P 6) Other:	atent Application						

DETAILED ACTION

Claim Objections

1. Claim 1 is objected to because of the following informalities: In line 3, the phrase "the first fire protection barrier" should be changed to --a first fire protection barrier-- to provide proper antecedent basis. Appropriate correction is required.

Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 103

- 2. The following is a quotation of 35 U.S.C. 103(a) which forms the basis for all obviousness rejections set forth in this Office action:
 - (a) A patent may not be obtained though the invention is not identically disclosed or described as set forth in section 102 of this title, if the differences between the subject matter sought to be patented and the prior art are such that the subject matter as a whole would have been obvious at the time the invention was made to a person having ordinary skill in the art to which said subject matter pertains. Patentability shall not be negatived by the manner in which the invention was made.
- 3. Claims 1-17 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Sundholm '309.

Sundholm '309 discloses a fire protection system comprising a fire protection glass pane fire door 14a/14b; fire activated water spray system with outlet nozzles 7 on both sides of the fire protection glass pane, which applies a curtain-like water spray haze in front of the glass pane and which partially wets the glass pane, except for the glass pane being a fire-risk category E. It would have been obvious to one having ordinary skill in the art at the time the invention was made to provide a glass pane with a fire-risk category E rating since the door is being used as a fire resistant door to provide a fire protection barrier and would depend on the fire resistance rating desired for the barrier.

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As to claim 5, and the distance between the nozzles and the fire protection glass pane, it would have been obvious to one having ordinary skill in the art at the time the invention was made to have the nozzles at the claimed distance range from the glass pane since it has been held that if one skilled in the art can discover the optimum or workable ranges by routine experimentation, where the general conditions of a claim are disclosed in the prior art, the differences between the claimed invention and the prior art may not be patentable differences. In re Aller, 220 F.2d 454,456 105 USPQ 233,235 (CCPA 1955).

As to claim 8, it would have been obvious to one having ordinary skill in the art at the time the invention was made to provide droplets of less than 200 microns, since it has been held that discovering an optimum value of a result effective variable involves only routine skill in the art. In re Boesch, 617 F.d 272, 205 USPQ 215 (CCPA 1980). In addition, it is well known in the fire protection art that water sprays with smaller droplet sizes have higher heat absorption rates which facilitates cooling.

As to claim 9, it would have been obvious to one having ordinary skill in the art at the time the invention was made to have the water spray system designed as a high-pressure water spray system with pressures from 10 to 200, since it has been held that if one skilled in the art can discover the optimum or workable ranges by routine experimentation, where the general conditions of a claim are disclosed in the prior art, the differences between the claimed invention and the prior art may not be patentable differences. In re Aller, 220 F.2d 454,456 105 USPQ 233,235 (CCPA 1955).

As to claims 10-14, it would have been obvious to one having ordinary skill in the art at the time the invention was made to provide glass panes composed of the materials claimed, since

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it has been held to be within the general skill of a worker in the art to select a known material on the basis of its suitability for the intended use as a matter of obvious design choice. In re Leshin, 125 USPQ 416.

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As to claim 17, It would have been obvious to one having ordinary skill in the art at the time the invention was made to provide a double door with a transom light depending on the size of the opening provided and desired to be protected.

Conclusion

- 4. The prior art made of record and not relied upon is considered pertinent to applicant's disclosure. Thompson, Renard, Miller, Van Lingen and Sundholm '160 show various types of water spray systems for protecting barriers and other types of openings.
- 5. Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to STEVEN J. GANEY whose telephone number is (571)272-4899. The examiner can normally be reached on 9:00-5:00; Monday-Friday.

If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, Len Tran can be reached on 571-272-1184. The fax phone number for the organization where this application or proceeding is assigned is 571-273-8300.

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Information regarding the status of an application may be obtained from the Patent

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information system, call 800-786-9199 (IN USA OR CANADA) or 571-272-1000.

/Steven J. Ganey/ Primary Examiner Art Unit 3752

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Form PTO-A820 (also form PTO-1449) P09C/REV04

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